



# HEAD-TO-HEAD TODAY'S SQUADS



Coach Scott Naylor sponsored by Muse Developments Ltd

Head Coach: Phil Veivers

**ORLFC Squad:****Sponsored by:**

1 Richard Lepori	Rita Walton
2 Adam Clay	Fireplace Superstore 0161 488 4991
5 Jamel Chisholm	Nathan Gibbison
6 Lewis Palfrey	Fireplace Superstore 0161 488 4991
8 Phil Joy	Oldham Past Players' Assn
9 Sam Gee	John and Lynda McAndrew
10 Jack Spencer	Fireplace Superstore 0161 488 4991
12 Danny Langtree	Daniel and Charlotte Haigh
13 Liam Thompson	ORSA
14 Joe Burke	John and Lynda McAndrew
16 Gary Middlehurst	Patsy Batterton
19 Adam Files	Frankie and Bennys 0161 624 7745
20 Gareth Owen	Bev, Kelly and Paul Hulbert
21 Kenny Hughes	Rita Walton
22 Danny Grimshaw	Pam Taylor/ TTX
23 Craig Briscoe	Buysportskit.com
24 Will Hope	Mick Harrop
26 Michael Ward	Sylvia and David Patterson
Scott Turner	ORSA
LOAN Kieran Gill	June Hibbert
LOAN David Hewitt	Grant and Sheila Somerville
LOAN Jack Blagbrough	Hanlon and Wright 0161 330 7631
LOAN Lewis Foster	Les and Eileen Davison
LOAN James Mendeika	Clarice Stevens

**Visitors' Squad:**

1. Jack Murphy
2. Sam Forrester
3. Declan Hulme
4. Jason Mossop
5. Brett Carter
6. Carl Forber
7. Jamie Doran
8. Kris Coward
9. Graeme Mattinson
10. Marc Shackley
11. Brett Phillips
12. Jarrad Stack
13. Liam McEvoy
14. Callum Phillips
15. Karl Olstrom
16. Perry Whiteley
17. Alex Szostak
18. Tom Walker
19. Ryan Verlinden
20. Stevie Scholey
21. Oliver Gordon
22. Chris Murphy
24. Theerapol Ritson
28. Jarrod Sammut
29. Latu Fifita

Ref, C Campbell; TJs, M Griffiths, D Sharpe; Res ref, J Page; M Comm, N Robinson;  
Timekeeper, I Ollerton. Sponsored by H Mullaney and Son (Skip Hire),

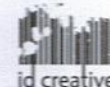
Assistant Coach Lee Spencer sponsored by Muse Developments

# OLDHAM VS WORKINGTON TOWN

**Kingstone Press**  
**SUPER 8s**  
**CHAMPIONSHIP SHIELD**

**Shield Showdown...**  
first of seven in the scrap to stay up

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Kingstone Press



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## FIXTURES & RESULTS

Comp,	Date	Opponents	Venue	Kick Off	Result	Att
<b>AUGUST</b>						
KP Shield	Sunday 7th	Workington T	H	3.00pm	TBC	TBC
KP Shield	Sunday 14th	Swinton Lions	A	3.00pm	TBC	TBC
KP Shield	Sunday 21st	Bradford Bulls	A	3.00pm	TBC	TBC
KP Shield	Monday 29th	Sheffield Eagles	H	3.00pm	TBC	TBC
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>						
KP Shield	Sunday 4th	Halifax	A	3.00pm	TBC	TBC
KP Shield	Sunday 11th	Whitehaven	H	3.00pm	TBC	TBC
KP Shield	Sunday 18th	Dewsbury Rams	A	3.00pm	TBC	TBC

**ROUND 1:** Dewsbury Rams v Swinton Lions; Halifax v Sheffield Eagles;  
**OLDHAM** v Workington Town; Whitehaven v Bradford Bulls.

**ROUND 2:** Bradford Bulls v Halifax; Sheffield Eagles v Whitehaven;  
Swinton Lions v **OLDHAM**; Workington Town v Dewsbury Rams.

**ROUND 3:** Bradford Bulls v **OLDHAM**; Halifax v Dewsbury Rams;  
Sheffield Eagles v Swinton Lions; Workington Town v Whitehaven.

**ROUND 4:** Dewsbury Rams v Bradford Bulls; **OLDHAM** v Sheffield Eagles;  
Swinton Lions v Workington Town; Whitehaven v Halifax.

**ROUND 5:** Bradford Bulls v Swinton Lions; Dewsbury Rams v Whitehaven;  
Halifax v **OLDHAM**; Sheffield Eagles v Workington Town.

**ROUND 6:** **OLDHAM** v Whitehaven; Sheffield Eagles v Dewsbury Rams;  
Swinton Lions v Halifax; Workington Town v Bradford Bulls.

**ROUND 7:** Bradford Bulls v Sheffield Eagles; Dewsbury Rams v **OLDHAM**;  
Halifax v Workington Town; Whitehaven v Swinton Lions





# How Spanner sees it...

## View from the Roughyeds' dug-out



AFTER a weekend off, we're at the starting gate for the Kingstone Press Championship Shield Super 8s and when I attended the official launch of the Super 8s at Man United's Old Trafford ground the other day it was interesting, to say the least, to learn that first up we would be playing the side that beat us 32-30 here at Bower Fold in our final game of the 23-match regular season a fortnight ago.

Yes, Workington Town are here again today for the third meeting with us this season and nobody will need any reminding, not least those boys in the Oldham dressing room, that the Cumbrians have taken four points off us and that, to use a hackneyed old cliché, we owe them one.

We certainly get an early opportunity to put the record straight, but we'll have to be at our best — certainly better than we played last time — if we are to kick off our Shield campaign with a win. Town have won three in a row after losing 17 and drawing one of their previous 20 so it's little wonder they fancy their chances of causing a few eyebrows to be raised in the Shield. Its up to us to make sure that doesn't happen when today's results hit the social media feeds at about 4.30pm this afternoon.



Muse Developments Ltd are sponsors of head coach Scott Naylor AND of his assistant of the past three seasons at Oldham RLFC, Lee Spencer

Whatever happens, it should be a cracker — as should each of our seven Shield games, especially today's encounter and the other two at Bower Fold against Sheffield Eagles on Monday, August 29 (Bank Holiday) and against Whitehaven on Sunday, September 11.

We were slightly disappointed at finishing the regular season third off bottom, but we are fully focused on what we need to do in these play-offs and we have been strengthened by the arrivals of David Hewitt and Jack Blagbrough and, in deadline week, of Scott Turner and James Mendeika.

We've been inconsistent over the course of the season and, more recently, we've rather made a bad habit of being slow starters. We've had highlights as well as some off days. We've seen some stuff that you would be pleased to see in the NRL but we've also had lapses in which we have come up with plays that were very disappointing indeed.

We mustn't moan about how tough it is in the Championship because we knew it would be before we came up last year.

We are now at the business end of the season and over the course of the next few weeks we need your support like never before. You have backed us brilliantly all year and I can tell you that Scott, Pete Carey, myself and all the boys appreciate that support more than you will ever know.

It doesn't need me to tell you how important it is that we put on a good show today and play to the best of our ability as individuals and as a team.

Your vocal support will be important too. I know you'll do us proud,

Enjoy the game,  
Lee Spencer, 'Spanner'.

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# Top-table topics...

## Chris Hamilton... from the boardroom

WELCOME once again to Bower Fold as we begin the home straight in the 2016 season.

After losing our last match against Workington in a disappointing display it's ironic that they are back here in the very next match. No doubt Town will come full of confidence after their last visit in which they won their third game in a row.

The message for us is simple -- start well and play like we mean it from the kick-off.

There is pressure on a number of teams in the battle to avoid relegation. Mental attitude and the ability to play under pressure will sort the men from the boys. We have to make sure we are a team of men. We have shown it earlier this season and we now need to show it again.

The lads have had a hard week following a few days off, which will have done them the world of good mentally and physically. It's worked for us before so let's hope it works again.

In the wider rugby league world it looks like York will at least get to the end of the season by which time somebody else will have hopefully taken on the club.

Having spoken to John Guilford, the chairman and owner, I know how frustrated he is with the situation and here's hoping it can be sorted out..

Bradford Bulls, meanwhile, have been issued with a winding-up petition by HMRC which they are saying is inaccurate. Their failure to make the top four will, no doubt, have a massive impact on the club and it's short-term future and the petition won't be helping things.

It underlines once again the perilous nature of professional sport and, believe you me, the struggle to keep your head above water is one that most clubs are fighting on a daily basis.

From speaking to colleagues from other clubs in all three divisions, I know it's tough across the board. It's almost taken for granted as being part of the norm, which is quite sad really.

On a more positive note, we are certainly enjoying the season and the different challenges it brings. As we start these final seven games of the season, we are relishing the challenges that lie ahead as we aim to secure our place in this division for 2017.

To have given ourselves a chance to do that is a reward for all the hard work to date. Look at what promoted clubs from League One have done in previous seasons and you will see that we have done better than a lot of the others.

That doesn't mean we are satisfied -- far from it -- but we have a good chance of staying up if we can achieve some wins, hopefully starting today.

Keep up the good work with your support of the lads today. It is so important.

Up the Roughyeds!

Christopher Hamilton  
Chairman  
Oldham Rugby League Football Club



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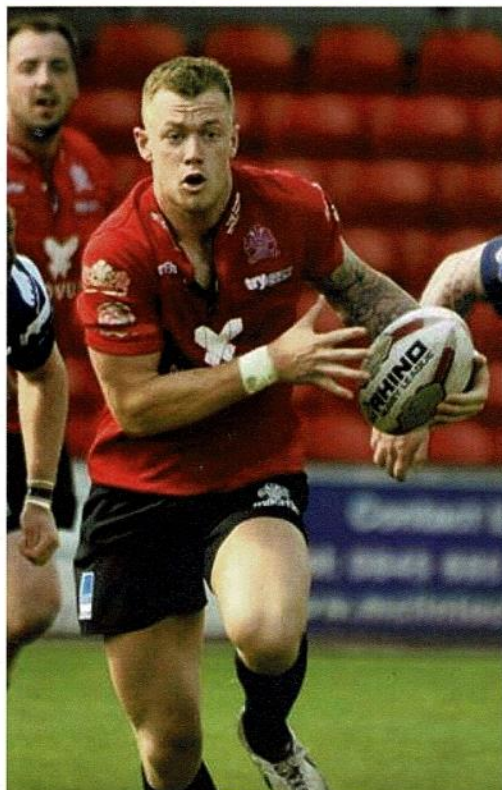
Good luck lads!



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# Focus on our deadline-week signings, outside backs Turner and Mendeika

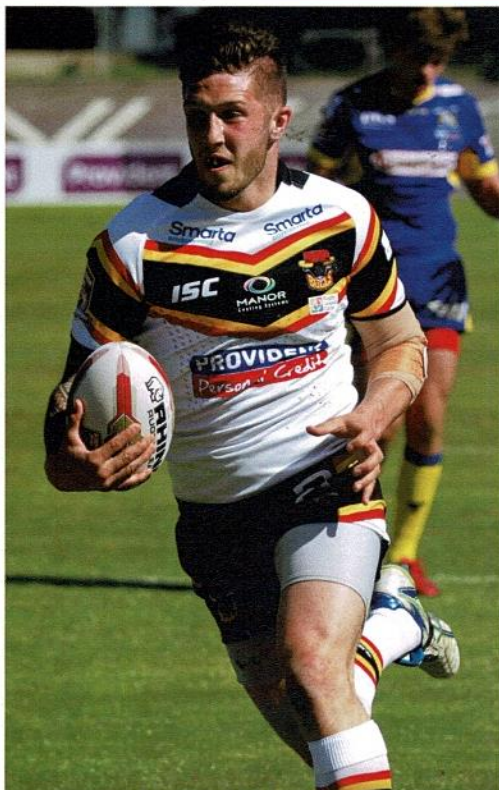


**SCOTT TURNER**

A WINGER, Scott has signed for us to the end of the season from North Wales Crusaders. Aged 22, he was picked up by Warrington Wolves from Wigan St Pat's aged 17. He then moved to Barrow Raiders before following coach Anthony Murray from Craven Park to North Wales Crusaders.

Nicknamed 'Salmon' -- an indication of his prowess in leaping for the high ball --- Scott made a total of 34 appearances for Crusaders, scoring 28 tries and 11 goals for a total of 134 points.

This season he scored 14 tries in 13 games for the Welsh club --- an impressive record.



**JAMES MENDEIKA**

James (24) has signed on loan to the end of the season. He is contracted to Bradford Bulls to the end of next year.

The former Warrington Wolves academy player had spells with Swinton Lions and Leigh Centurions on dual-reg or loan before moving to Featherstone and then on to Bradford where he was reunited with coach James Lowes, with whom he had worked at Warrington.

He can play half-back, centre or full-back, as he has done many times for Mark Aston's Ireland, but here at Roughyeds he is likely to be regarded as a centre.



OUR former player Robert Roberts, known all over rugby league land as 'Two Bobs', is our new community coach, succeeding Danny Newall, who left to take up a new job with Widnes Vikings.

One of Robert's first initiatives is to lead a rugby league-based Summer Camp for children at Whitebank Stadium, which is running every Thursday, apart from August 11, during the school holidays, up to and including September 1.

"It's great to be back at Oldham RLFC and very fulfilling to be able to put something back into the game I loved to play," said 'Two Bobs', the ex-Hull, Halifax and Huddersfield forward, who scored 15 tries in 55 games for Roughyeds between 2007 and 2009.

## 'Two Bobs' back in community role

Aged 38 now, he is closely monitoring the progress of his 17-year-old son Josh, who has just signed a new two-year contract at Leeds Rhinos and who, when his Rhinos commitments permit, will help out his dad in running the Summer Camp at Whitebank.

Staged as a joint venture with Regenda, the camp will cater for seven to 12-year-olds inclusive from 10am to noon and for over-12s to 16s inclusive from 1pm to 3pm (every Thursday in the school holidays apart from August 11).

Entry is FREE and 'Two Bobs' will make sure that everyone has lots of FUN.

He said: "The children have to enjoy it, that's what it's all about. It won't be anything too serious or too demanding. We'll have a lot of laughs and a lot of fun while perhaps learning something about the skills of rugby league along the way.

"The stuff we do with the older group will be a tad more serious, but in the main it's all about children coming along and enjoying themselves in the fresh air.

"I've done this sort of thing before in other places and, certainly with the younger group, it's ideal for parents to drop off their children while they go shopping or something like that and know they will be safe and active."

Just turn up each Thursday at the appropriate time or ring the Oldham RLFC office on 07904898177 if you need more information.

## Craig will sing for us at Wembley...



CRAIG Halstead (50), a lifelong Roughyeds fan, will represent Oldham RLFC on the pitch at Wembley before the 2016 Ladbrokes Challenge Cup final on Saturday, August 27.

He will be part of the fans' choir, formed by a club rep from each club, which will sing the traditional Wembley hymn, 'Abide With Me' - another 'first' for our sport thanks to the organisation of the BBC 'Songs of Praise' team.

Said Craig, who travels from his home in Bangor, North Wales, to support the Roughyeds: "I watched my first game aged five, and I've been supporting them ever since. It will mean the world to me to sing my favourite hymn in my favourite stadium --- second only perhaps to seeing an Oldham captain lift the Cup one day."



## Shield games ideal to give our big-game hospitality a TRY !



WITH two more home games to look forward to in the Shield there are plenty of opportunities to make your Bower Fold experience a special one by joining us for big-game hospitality in the sponsors' suite.

You don't know who you might rub shoulders with. Former Oldham players Leo Casey, Tony Morrison and Shane Tupaea, with Saddleworth Rangers chairman Shane Wilson, were in for the Whitehaven game.

Paul Rowley, head coach of new club Toronto Wolfpack, was in for the Swinton game with his dad Allan, himself a former Leigh forward and well-known club official... and they were later joined by Wolfpack's new Director of Rugby, Brian Noble. Former Super League player Simon Finnigan, Paul's assistant at Toronto, was also in their group.

In previous games this season we've welcomed, among other well-known RL personalities, RFL chief executive Nigel Wood; RFL chief operating officer Ralph Rimmer; and several ex-Oldham players, including Rob 'Two Bobs' Roberts, Ged Corcoran and Adam Neal.

At a recent home game, nine-year-old Joe Snape was with us for a ninth birthday treat when he met his favourite player Lewis Palfrey, who introduced him to the rest of the squad.

It was ORSA's big day in there last time when Lynda McAndrew celebrated a VERY special birthday. Many happy returns Lynda.

Congrats too to ORSA draw winners Mr and Mrs Newby of Dobcross, Phil Hunt of Oldham and Robert Hunt of Rochdale, who each won two tickets for match-day hospitality at a future game, prizes donated by the parent club.

Bernard Halford, secretary of the Oldham RLFC (Past) Players' Association and treasurer John Watkins, who was 'the man with the magic sponge' at Watersheddings for 30 years, were in our hospitality suite at the Workington game two weeks ago.

For £35 (or £25 for season-ticket holders) you get a main-stand seat, three-course meal, tea or coffee at half-time, use of a private pay bar, pre-match interviews and/or Q and A sessions and post-game man-of-the-match and champagne-moment presentations with players and our club chairman Chris Hamilton.

Give it a TRY and make it your GOAL to ring the club on 07904 898177 for a booking.

### WEMBLEY TICKETS -- FOR HALF PRICE !

WE are pleased to announce that Roughyeds fans can purchase tickets for the Ladbrokes Challenge Cup final at Wembley on Saturday, August 27 from Whitebank at HALF-PRICE. What a bargain !

Available are £35 tickets for £17.50 and concessionary £25 tickets - the first time the RFL have introduced a concession price - for £12.50, these available to 16s and under; 65s and over; serving Military, with valid ID; and students with valid ID.

These heavily discounted tickets are available at Whitebank from tomorrow (Monday) morning at 9.30am until 1.30pm and for the rest of the week, and subsequent weeks, as follows: Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9.30am to 1.30pm; Wednesdays, 9.30am to 3pm; Fridays, 9.30am to 4pm. You can also ring the office on 07904 898177.

## A Town legend who was also a star act at Watersheddings

by ROGER HALSTEAD

I ONLY rarely saw the legendary Ike Southward in Oldham colours -- usually when Alan Davies was sending him in for tries against Rochdale Hornets -- but in later years I lost count of the times the Cumbrian superstar would score the tries or kick the goals that broke Oldham hearts.

More than half a century since the late Cumbrian wing flier was starring for Workington, Oldham, Workington again and Great Britain, he was still a hot topic of conversation whenever Town and Roughyeds fans of a certain age met over a pint (or two or three ...) for a yarn about the good old days.

That was also something Ike could do well --- tell a tale with the best of 'em. Long after he had ceased to run in the tries against the Aussies on tour, he was still serving his beloved Town in a number of capacities, including groundsman.

His groundsman's hut in the bowels of the main stand at Derwent Park was rugby league's answer to Shankley's boot room at Anfield.

How I treasure the memory of chatting with Ike in his den, accompanied by the likes of lifelong Oldham fans and erstwhile Watersheddings characters like Frank Diskin, Terry Doyle, Jack Roscoe and Ronnie Hardaker.

On more recent trips to Workington it has been an absolute pleasure to meet up with Ike's son and to recall the feats of a man who will forever be remembered as a great of the game, playing as he did in an era when rugby league was in its hey-day and the sport was awash with stars who would dominate the world stage.

For the record, his transfer from Town to Oldham in March, 1959 cost a world record £10,650 --- the first five-figure fee in the history of the game.

In less than two years at Watersheddings --- he never really settled in these parts and he always missed the green, green hills of home --- he scored 54 tries in 52 games, including 31 in 24 games in his only full season here, 1959-60.

It was no surprise to many when Town took him home in 1961 for £11,000 and a bottle of whisky, the price of the hard stuff (£2-10s) taking the fee above the £11,000 St Helens paid Wigan for Mick Sullivan and thus creating another record.

He was to play for his hometown Town club for many years after that, but it was a measure of the man that the more pain he inflicted on Oldham on the field the greater was the esteem in which he was

held by Roughyeds fans, who would always remember his right-wing partnership with Davies in the old club's golden era. As a rugby league fan of a somewhat different persuasion in those days, my lasting memories of Ike are of his groundsman's days at Derwent Park and the gripping tales he would tell of his experiences in the game around the world.

Whenever Oldham and Workington go head to head I'm reminded of Ike, of his yarns, of some of the best days I ever had in more than 40 years covering Roughyeds for the Oldham Evening Chronicle and of his special treats for his old mates from Lancashire...

REAL Cumberland sausages from his local butcher in downtown Workington.



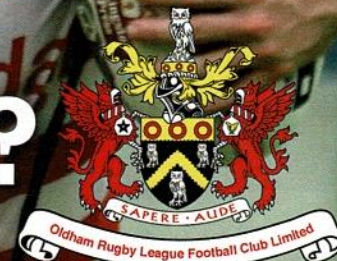
Picture by OLDHAM EVENING CHRONICLE





# Remember this ten-try thriller?

Oldham 30, Workington Town 32, July 24th, 2016



Photography: David Murgatroyd



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## Oldham RLFC Statistics after 26 matches

Squad Number, Name, Appearances, Interchange Appearances, Tries, Goals, Drop Goals, Points\* DR (Dual Registered Player) LO (Player on Loan)

		A	I	T	G	DG	Pts
1	Richard Lepori	20	0	5	0	0	20
2	Adam Clay	24	0	7	0	0	28
3	Jon Ford	3	0	2	0	0	8
4	Jack Holmes	14	0	5	1	0	22
5	Jamel Chisholm	20	0	9	0	0	36
6	Lewis Palfrey	18	1	1	51	1	107
7	Steve Roper	12	0	1	10	0	24
8	Phil Joy	22	1	2	0	0	8
9	Sam Gee	10	9	1	1	0	6
10	Jack Spencer	11	3	0	0	0	0
11	Josh Crowley	2	2	0	0	0	0
12	Danny Langtree	19	1	6	0	0	24
13	Liam Thompson	14	10	1	0	0	4
14	Joe Burke	6	10	1	0	0	4
16	Gary Middlehurst	17	0	4	0	0	16
19	Adam Files	1	11	3	0	0	12
20	Gareth Owen	24	0	4	0	0	16
21	Kenny Hughes	2	20	7	0	0	28
22	Danny Grimshaw	17	1	3	0	0	12
23	Craig Briscoe	4	2	0	0	0	0
24	Will Hope	19	2	3	0	0	12
25	Tom Ashton	3	1	2	0	0	8
26	Michael Ward	2	24	8	0	0	32
LO	Jake Bibby	3	0	0	0	0	0
LO	Tom Spencer	4	0	0	0	0	0
LO	Lewis Foster	6	1	1	0	0	4
LO	Kieran Gill	5	0	3	0	0	12
LO	David Hewitt	2	0	0	5	0	10
LO	Jack Blagbrough	0	2	1	0	0	4
DR	Liam Johnson	13	0	4	0	0	16
DR	Tyler Dickinson	8	3	0	0	0	0
DR	Kruise Leeming	4	0	0	0	0	0
DR	Jared Simpson	3	0	0	0	0	0
DR	Sam Wood	5	0	2	3	0	14
DR	Darnell McIntosh	1	0	0	0	0	0

## Kingstone Press Championship Table

		P	W	L	D	PF	PA	DIFF	PTS
1	Leigh Centurions	23	21	1	1	881	410	471	43
2	London Broncos	23	17	6	0	702	444	258	34
3	Batley Bulldogs	23	15	7	1	589	485	104	31
4	Featherstone Rovers	23	15	8	0	595	384	211	30
5	Bradford Bulls	23	13	8	2	717	446	271	28
6	Halifax RLFC	23	13	9	1	615	484	131	27
7	Sheffield Eagles	23	8	15	0	583	617	-34	16
8	Dewsbury Rams	23	8	15	0	486	603	-117	16
9	Swinton Lions	23	7	15	1	449	813	-364	15
10	Oldham RLFC	23	7	16	0	401	678	-277	14
11	Workington Town	23	5	17	1	455	756	-301	11
12	Whitehaven RLFC	23	5	17	1	367	720	-353	11



# A WALK DOWN MEMORY LANE

Submitted By Oldham RL Heritage Trust



Oldham have played matches against opposition from Workington going right back to the Victorian era. The first was on October 15 1898 when the Cumbrians came to Watersheddings where they met with defeat 11 - 0 with the highlight a "hat-trick" from winger, Jack Hurst.

In 1909 the old Workington club reverted back to Rugby Union but the appetite for the 13-a-side code remained and the professional club were admitted to the Rugby League in time for the 1945-46 season.

The first match in the new era was in Oldham on December 1945 when the Roughyeds won a tight match 6 - 3 thanks to tries from Vince Kenny and Frank Herd. 'Town' won the return 11 - 0 on February 23 1946.

After the Oldham club reformed it was against Workington that the Roughyeds played their first league match at Derwent Park on April 14 1998. A good many Oldham fans made the journey to cheer on the favourites but the early signs were not good as Town went into a 12 - 0 lead after 15 minutes thanks to tries from Craig Fisher and Peter Riley, both created and converted by Barry Williams. Oldham replied on 27 minutes when Afi Leuila capitalised on good work by Ian Sinfield to open the visitors' account. The conversion was missed and a penalty goal by Williams stretched the Workington lead to 14 - 4 at the interval.

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The second half was much better for Oldham and a devastating opening spell started when Sean Cooper put Richard Darkes over in the corner. Then substitute Paul Round smashed his way over despite the attention of several defenders before Neil Flanagan scored a superb solo effort tricking his way through the Town defence to touch down under the posts. The latter try was converted by Cooper and Oldham were 18 - 14 in front.

The lead was short lived however and five minutes later Mateaki Mafi brought the scores level, finishing off a move again initiated by the impressive Williams. Once again the reply was swift with the decisive score coming when Cooper and Craig Barker combined well to send Michael Edwards over for the match winner. Mick Martindale was outstanding on defence with the energetic Darkes always looking to be involved in the action.

The only downside of a famous victory was a broken leg suffered by winger Joe McNicholas.

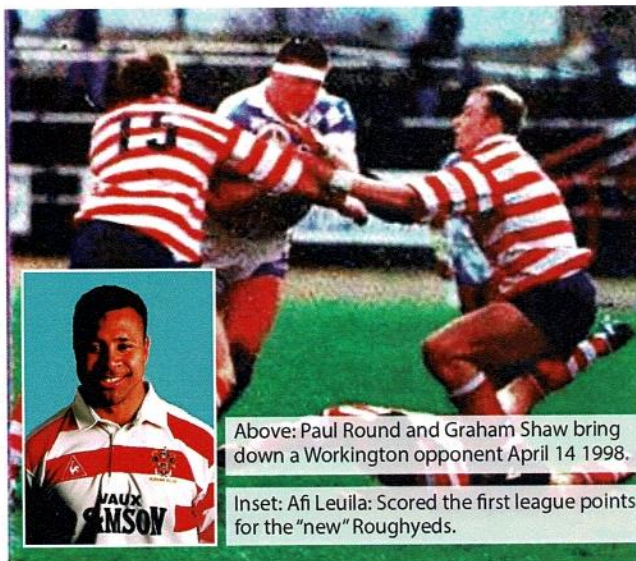
Final score:

Workington Town 18 Oldham 22

WORKINGTON:

S. Arnold, M. Keenan, R. Henare, M. Mafi, D. Bibby, C. Fisher, C. Roden.  
D. Whitter, C. Highton, P. Riley, B. Williams, J. Thursfield, A. Samuels.  
SUBS: N. Crellin, S. Heaton, A. Little, M. Bethwaite.

OLDHAM: A. Mead, R. Darkes, A. Leuila, S. Cooper, J. McNicholas, C. Barker, N. Flanagan, J. Clegg, J. Hough, M. Edwards, I. Sinfield, G. Shaw, M. Martindale. SUBS: D. Robinson, P. Round, M. Maders, N. Varley.  
Attendance: 1,344  
Referee: Mr. P. Lee.



Above: Paul Round and Graham Shaw bring down a Workington opponent April 14 1998.

Inset: Afi Leuila: Scored the first league points for the "new" Roughyeds.

## OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

## OLDHAM v. WORKINGTON TOWN

Saturday, December 1st, 1945

Kick-off 2-45 p.m.

Official Programme - 2d.

Gordon Whittaker Ltd., Printers, Oldham.

The programme for the first match against Workington Town in December 1945.



# WORKINGTON TOWN - Today's Visitors



Workingington Town arrive at Bower Fold today to face the Roughyeds in the opening game of the 2016 Championship Shield. Players from both clubs have enjoyed a rare free weekend off but now the fight to retain a place in the game's second tier begins in earnest.

The Cumbrian side found themselves rooted to the bottom of the Championship table for much of the regular season but a late rally lifted coach Phil Veiver's men off the foot of the table and they finished 11th on points difference. Near neighbours Whitehaven were thereby handed the wooden spoon and Workingington could enjoy bragging rights over their arch rivals.

This afternoon's fixture is the third between the two sides this year. An early season 23-12 win for Town at the Zebra Claims Stadium was followed by a narrow 32-30 victory over Oldham only two weeks ago here on our home turf. Both games were in the balance until the final moments but on each occasion Workingington came out on top.

Narrow margin scorelines have been a feature of Workingington's season. In both victory and defeat Town have given their fans several nail-biting finales and but for one missed tackle or a single stray pass their league placing could have been much higher. It demonstrates how tough games are in this division and the importance of making every minute count.

Town's talismanic half-back Jarrod Sammut is a key figure in much of their play, putting all of his NRL and Super League experience to good use. Always a dangerous opponent, Sammut will be keen to create openings for his side yet given half a chance he'll personally punish any team should he spot the slightest weakness in their defence. Callum Phillips, a former National Youth Player of the year may join Sammut as his half-back partner and Oldham will be keen to keep both play makers under control.

Phil Veivers will want his side to continue their winning ways. A Town triumph today will drag both teams closer together in the end of season dogfight. A loss will provide the hosts with some much welcome breathing space with only half a dozen games to go.

## Town Trio...

Jarrod Sammut

A 29 year old half-back born in Blacktown, a suburb of Sydney in Australia. Represents Malta on the international stage. Began his professional career with Penrith Panthers before moving to Super League club Crusaders in 2010. Spells at Bradford Bulls and Wakefield Wildcats followed before arriving at Workingington Town in the summer of the 2015. Quick thinking ball player who is a constant threat close to the try line.



Callum Phillips

Born in Whitehaven, this 24 year old hooker or half-back was named Gillette National Youth League player of the year in 2010. Signed a professional contract with Town in November 2012 and is now considered a key member of the Cumbrian club. Eligible to play for Scotland through his Grandparents, he was a member of the 2014 Scottish European Cup squad.



Marc Shackley

Big prop-forward who was the recipient of the 2015 Readers Player of the Year Trophy, presented by Cumbria's News and Star newspaper. A hospital worker, the player was credited with assisting in the recovery of a lifelong Town fan who had been in a coma for three weeks. Visits to her hospital bedside helped bring the patient back to consciousness.







# FIXTURES & RESULTS



Comp,	Date	Opponents	Venue	Kick Off	Result	Att
<b>FEBRUARY</b>						
KP Champ	Sunday 7th	London Broncos	H	3.00pm	L 0:22	767
KP Champ	Sunday 14th	Leigh Centurions	A	3.00pm	L 48:18	3,371
KP Champ	Sunday 21st	Dewsbury Rams	H	3.00pm	W 38:16	816
KP Champ	Sunday 28th	Featherstone R.	A	3.00pm	L 20:6	1,739
<b>MARCH</b>						
KP Champ	Sunday 6th	Bradford Bulls	H	3.00pm	Post*	
KP Champ	Sunday 13th	Workington T	A	3.00pm	L 23:12	637
CC (4)	Sunday 20th	Kells	H	3.00pm	W 40:6	385
KP Champ	Good Fri 25th	Halifax	H	3.00pm	L 28:42	1046
KP Champ	Mon 28th	Swinton Lions	A	3.00pm	L 18:28	823
<b>APRIL</b>						
KP Champ	Sunday 3rd	Batley Bulldogs	H	3.00pm	W 28:12	814
KP Champ	Sunday 10th	Sheffield Eagles	H	3.00pm	W 21:20	724
CC (5)	Saturday 16th	Hull KR	A	2.00pm	W 36:22	3056
KP Champ	Saturday 23rd	Whitehaven	A	6.30pm	L 6:14	615
<b>MAY</b>						
KP Champ	Sunday 1st	Featherstone R	H	3.00pm	W 16:14	868
CC (6)	Saturday 7th	Warrington Wolves	H	3.00pm	L 10:70	2,394
KP Champ	Sunday 15th	Leigh Centurions	H	3.00pm	L 14:56	1,489
KP Champ	Friday 20th	Halifax	A	8.00pm	L 6:12	1,285
Summer Bash	Sunday 29th	Swinton Lions	BR*	3.00pm	L 24:25	-
<b>JUNE</b>						
KP Champ	Sunday 5th	Batley Bulldogs	A	3.00pm	L 18:42	783
KP Champ	Sunday 12th	Dewsbury Rams	A	3.00pm	L 46:10	742
KP Champ	Wed 15th	Bradford Bulls	H	8.00pm	L 4:48	1051
KP Champ	Sunday 19th	London Broncos	A	3.00pm	L 56:16	425
KP Champ	Sunday 26th	Whitehaven	H	3.00pm	W 26:18	516
<b>JULY</b>						
KP Champ	Friday 1st	Sheffield Eagles	A	8.00pm	W 24:16	541
KP Champ	Sunday 10th	Swinton Lions	H	3.00pm	W 26:24	758
KP Champ	Sunday 17th	Bradford Bulls	A	3.00pm	L 44:12	4,235
KP Champ	Sunday 24th	Workington T	H	3.00pm	L 30:32	689

Super 8's details can be found on page 3 of this programme

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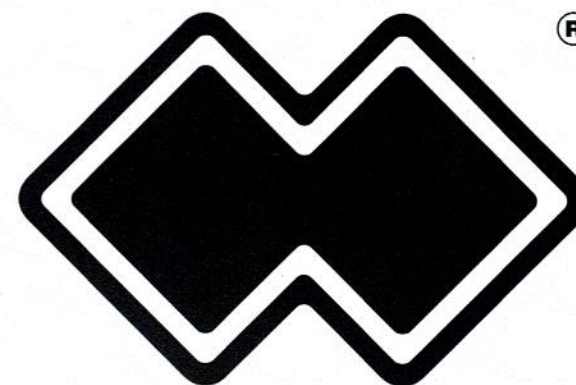
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